# the little paper

JULY 2, 2010 - JULY 29, 2010

**Bringing You Good News** 

**VOLUME 23 NUMBER 24** 

## Timely Tidbits ...

#### TLP on Summer Break

Yep, it's that time again - time for the small but hard-working staff of the little paper to take its annual break and enjoy some summer R&R. We'll see you again on July 30.

#### **Taylor Water Report** Now Available Online

Taylor residents interested in seeing a copy of the City's annual water quality report can find it on the Web at www.cityoftaylor.com/water.

The annual report also will be part of the Summer 2010 edition of the City newsletter, Taylor Info, which was scheduled to be mailed to homes and businesses by July 1.

Additional copies of the report will be available at the Water Department, located at the Department of Public Works (25605 Northline Road), and other municipal buildings.

The report informs water customers about Taylor's water quality over the previous 12 months and addresses other important waterrelated issues.

Call 734-374-1363 for information, or to receive a report by mail.

#### "Party in the Park" Marks 175th Birthday

Celebrate 175 years of Romulus history at this year's "Party in the Park," to be held at Romulus Historical Park (11120 Hunt Street, next to the post office) on Wednesday, July 21, from 6:30 p.m. until dusk.

The free event - hosted by the Romulus Historical Society and the Romulus Historical Commission will feature tours of historic Kingsley house and the railroad freight house, as well as light refreshments, music, and an opportunity to view old class photos from Romulus High School and other photos of local historical significance.

Those who attend are invited to bring their own photos and/or artifacts to share. Period attire is optional.

#### New Site for Adult Ed

Romulus Adult and Community Education is relocating to 15303 Merriman Road (formerly Merriman Elementary School) for 2010-11. For information, call 734-532-1956.

# "Worldwide Photo Walk" Welcomes Local Shutterbugs

You don't have to be a professional photographer to take part in the Romulus Photo Walk on July 24. The event, led locally by Romulus resident Roger Kadau, is part of Scott Kelby's annual Worldwide Photo Walk - the largest global social photography event ever.

On the same day around the world, photographers from all walks of life and skill levels gather together, usually in downtown areas, to socialize, share tips, and explore their own corner of the planet through the eye of a lens. Last year, more than 32,000 people in over 900 locations participated. The Romulus walk contributed a dozen photographers, including residents of Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield, Royal Oak, and Ann Arbor, as well as the homegrown variety.

This year, the Romulus event will begin at 11 a.m. in the parking lot at City Hall (11111 Wayne Road), and end at the Romulus Athletic Center (35765 Northline Road). According to Kadau, the route will offer a wide variety of photo opportunities and subjects, including the historic Peter Bird house, Detroit Metro Airport, and the



This picture, taken by Sue Sage of Farmington Hills, was the winning entry in last year's Romulus Photo Walk. Used with permission.

Kadau recommends that participants bring both a telephoto lens and a flash.

Although there is no charge to participate in the walk itself, those who wish to

get together afterward for lunch in the RAC café may do so at their own expense. To register, visit worldwidephotowalk.com and search for the Romulus walk.

# Taylor Officials Honor Retiring Police Commander

Department has been honored for his dis-

A 23-year veteran of the Taylor Police tinguished service by Mayor Jeffrey Lamarand and the City Council.



During the Taylor City Council meeting of June 15, Taylor Police Commander Don Helvey proudly displayed a plaque he received for 23 years of distinguished service. Fellow Taylor officers present for the brief presentation ceremony at City Hall included: (from left) front - Sergeant Mike Lividini, Commander Dan Crowell, Lieutenant Mary Sclabassi, and Police Chief Dale Tamsen; middle - Detective Steve Schwein, Detective Ken May, Lieutenant Brian Raboczkay, Detective Maureen Brinker, and Detective Don Farago; back - Detective Jason Hall, Sergeant Frank Kornexl, Detective John MacDonald, Detective Joe Chadwick, and Detective Nick Hill. Photo by Dave Gorgon/City of Taylor

Commander Don Helvey will retire from the Police Department on June 30, but not before being thanked and commended for his exemplary police career.

The proclamation - read by Mayor Lamarand during the June 15 Council meeting - said, in part, "Don Helvey has held the position of internal affairs commander longer than any other Taylor officer and has done so with integrity and compassion. ... We praise his commitment to the department, we are inspired by his participation in setting a high standard of integrity and excellence and we thank him for all that he has done."

Chief of Police Dale Tamsen also awarded Commander Helvey with the "Distinguished Service Medal."

Said Tamsen, "Don and I have a unique bond due to the fact we were hired on the same date over 23 years ago, and were both promoted through the ranks together. Don has always been a dedicated, hard-working officer, putting the department's needs above his own. One word to describe Don's character is integrity. With his retirement, the Police Department is not only losing an experienced officer, but a true leader that will be greatly missed."

continued on page 4

# Guest Commentary

#### Don't Drill in Our Great Lakes!

By State Representative Deb Kennedy (D-Brownstown), 23rd District

We all know how important our Great Lakes are to Michigan's economy and our way of life. We rely on them for jobs, for recreation, and for the small businesses that drive our economy.

That's why the massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico hits so close to home. The folks down South - who depend on their waters in much the same way we do - have had their lives turned upside down. The disaster has already caused billions of dollars in economic damage that is paralyzing the fishing, boating and tourism industries from New Orleans to Key West. The future effects on the gulf coast environment and economy are incalculable.

We cannot let this happen here in Michigan. That's why I recently helped introduce a plan to permanently ban drilling in Michigan's waters - which includes both offshore drilling, known as horizontal wells, and onshore drilling, known as slant wells, which originate on land and drill under the lakes.

In 2002, the state banned drilling in our Great Lakes. Regretfully, seven existing drill locations were "grandfathered" in and continue to operate today - one oil well, two liquid hydrocarbon wells and four natural gas wells. Additionally, while Michigan's ban is still in effect, it is simply not strong enough. Lawmakers and the next governor could weaken or remove that ban at any

Unfortunately, today's regulations and safeguards for drilling are not technologically advanced enough to guarantee prevention of these types of disasters.

Under our plan, the people of Michigan would vote this November on whether to add this ban to our constitution and protect our waters from a catastrophe like the one we're witnessing down South.

With 20% of the world's surface freshwater and 95% of our country's supply of freshwater, our Great Lakes are too impor-



State Representative Deb Kennedy

tant to our state, our economy and our way

Three of our most important industries - manufacturing, agriculture and tourism - all depend on our Great Lakes water for success. We must take action now to protect Michigan's multibillion-dollar fishing, boating and tourism industries and hundreds of thousands of Michigan jobs by allowing our voters to decide whether to permanently ban drilling in the Great

Our Great Lakes are also a main source of residential use, including drinking water. As a lifelong Michigan resident, I want future generations to have the same pure Michigan that I have known and loved. That's why we also have to do more with alternative sources of energy in order to break our addiction to oil and help make Michigan a leader in new energy technologies, like advanced batteries for electric vehicles.

I encourage residents to join the fight against drilling in the Great Lakes by visiting www.DontDrillMILakes.com to see firsthand how an oil spill tragedy would threaten our community.

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The little paper invites individuals and organizations to submit articles and letters that may be of interest to its readers; however, the little paper is not responsible for the content of such material, and the opinions and views expressed by the writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or staff. The little paper reserves the right to edit any material submitted for publication; however, since material submitted for "Letters to the Editor," "Local Commentary," and similar columns may be printed verbatim, inaccuracies, misspellings, and grammatical errors in these columns may be the responsibility of the writer, and not of the composition department of the little paper. All letters, commentaries, and other submissions must be signed, and must include a telephone number so that their authenticity can be verified.

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# Letter to the Editor

# McLachlan Pled "No Contest," Not "Guilty"; Editor Apologizes for Mistake

by Romulus Community Schools Board of Education Trustee Robert McLachlan, is a response to a letter that appeared in our June 18 issue. The gist of that letter, which was submitted by Romulus resident Kirk D. Spencer, was that Trustee McLachlan should resign from office due to his public behavior.

As I sometimes do for the sake of space or clarification, I edited Mr. Spencer's letter. Although I pride myself on always doing my very best to "get the story straight," I made a terrible mistake that day. My summarization of Mr. Spencer's letter read, in part: "Board Trustee Robert McLachlan was arraigned on a charge of assault and battery against a woman who is a Romulus resident. He pled guilty to a lesser charge."

In fact, Trustee McLachlan did not plead "guilty" to anything. He pled "no contest" to a charge of disorderly conduct. The mistake was mine and mine alone; Mr. Spencer never used the word "guilty" in his original letter. And, despite the fact that I e-mailed a copy of the edited letter to Mr. Spencer, and he sent me a return e-mail giving his approval to run it, the original mistake was still mine.

I would like to extend my most sincere apologies to both Mr. McLachlan and Mr. Spencer for my error, and for any problems it may have caused them.

Dear Romulus citizens:

I am responding to a letter submitted by Kirk Spencer (whom I have never met, nor has he called me to hear the TRUE story behind the allegations he made in the June 18th issue of the little paper).

Mr. Spencer, I urge you to gather truthful, factual information before you make public accusations, as it would save everyone involved a great deal of stress and financial resources. Although I do not challenge your right to air grievances in the press (I have done the same thing), I do take issue with the fact that not once did you call or write me, nor have you attended a School Board meeting, to ask me about your concerns. I have made it a point to be very accessible and accountable to the citizens of Romulus, and have to question the motive behind your very public and incorrect attack.

Here are the facts:

1) During the fall election cycle, in which I was heavily involved in the races of several individuals that I believe are the best for carrying Romulus forward, a disgruntled resident, Virginia Williams, approached myself and another candidate in "her" neighborhood. I emphasized the word "her" because that is the term she used, and because she filled the conversation with comments that were heavily tainted with racist

remarks toward myself and some candidates in the election. Rather than allowing that scene to go out of control, a decision was made to end campaigning in that neighborhood for the evening (it was a Saturday). The following Monday, Ms. Williams appeared at the campaign headquarters for Mayor Alan Lambert (where I was volunteering), and, in full view and witness of the secretary of the attorney's office we subleased, began her ranting again, again using racially insensitive remarks. I refused to continue the confrontation with her, as she was obviously out of control. She refused to leave, so I called the Mayor, demanding that he convince her to leave the office or to send the police to remove her. As she left the office, slamming the door, she yelled at me, "Game on, Mother ######."

2) Several days later, I was visited by the Romulus Police Department, being told that Ms. Williams had accused me of assault. I immediately, and freely, gave a complete statement to the investigating officer. After that, it is my understanding that the eyewitness (the attorney's secretary) was also interviewed. Based upon those interviews, and the police investigation, my understanding is that the Romulus Police dismissed the case due to lack of credible evidence.

3) About a month later, I was advised that Ms. Williams, accompanied by Ms. Eva Webb, a Romulus Councilwoman, went to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office and demanded they file a charge, which they did. In accordance with my constitutional rights, I hired an attorney to defend me against these false charges, and, because of my faith in my fellow citizens, demanded a jury trial of my peers. After several court dates and many legal costs, the Wayne County Prosecutor's representative apparently recognized the situation for what it was, a politically motivated charge, and acknowledged that the facts didn't support the claims of Ms. Williams, which of course is because the alleged "event" NEVER TOOK PLACE. Despite this, and my complete innocence, because of what I understand to be an internal policy, the prosecutor would not dismiss the charges outright, but instead insisted upon some type of plea bargain in order to pacify Ms. Webb, whom I understand had been making calls to the prosecutor's office. The prosecutor at that point made an offer of "NO CONTEST" to "disorderly conduct." THE ONLY REA-SON I AGREED TO THIS was to reduce the expense, financial and emotional, to my family for the persecution that was occurring, and recognizing the additional legal costs of a trial. Because of an utter lack of supporting evidence, my sentence was taken under advisement by the Court; however, I had to pay a considerable fine and court costs, not to mention my personal legal fees.

It is important to note that Ms. Williams waited several days to sign any sworn statements, and I am told that Ms. Webb, presumably because she is aware of the penalties involved in making a false statement to the police, would not even sign a sworn statement for the police. Ms. Williams, though, with absolutely no proof, no evidence, no medical report, no witnesses, continued with the complaint. However, the evidence (measurements, etc.) of what I was accused to have done within the confines of the office, simply stated, makes the event impossible to recreate. I was literally on the telephone with the Mayor when Ms. Williams stormed out of the office. The fact that this event never happened didn't seem to matter to those aware of the situation, who, to this day, continue to harass and intimidate me based upon the misinformation they have been fed.

It is also important to note that the little paper, informally, by myself, was being made aware of these allegations, and the developments of the legal process, which clearly demonstrates that I have made no attempt to "hide" or "cover up" the incident. I did so because I know that TRUTH always prevails.

As for me "not controlling my own voice and temper" – yes, I have spoken out against board members (actually, only one)

after I was called "irresponsible" because I voted against laying off teachers midyear, an unnecessary move in my opinion, which had the affect of increasing class sizes in our elementary schools and creating split classrooms. At that same meeting, I also voted "no" on reinstating a student who had intentionally punched a security guard in the face at the high school. I stand by those decisions.

I do not recall any instance where I have "verbally attacked" a board member for having an opposing point of view, and challenge anyone to produce an instance where I did. When that happens, I will concede my error, because divergent views are sometimes necessary to good governance, and no person should be dissuaded from sharing a different viewpoint, not even myself. That, sir, is how consensus is formed. I invité you, or any Romulus resident, to contact me directly if there are concerns about my perceived actions. I am happy to have a civil, factual conversation with anyone, but I cannot, and will not, tolerate slanderous and libelous statements to be made about me without rebuttal.

And, for the record: No, I will not resign. I am proud of my record this past year on the Board of Education, and I believe that there are many residents who just happen to agree with my perspective on many issues.

Sincerely, Robert W. McLachlan Trustee, Romulus Board of Education

### Geiss Talks with Students about Finances



State Representative Douglas Geiss, along with First Catholic Federal Credit Union employees Maria McNabb (School Program Coordinator) and Colleen Chapman (Branch Coordinator), recently discussed fiscal issues and the future with student "tellers" at St. Alfred Catholic School in Taylor. Each week, different students were given the opportunity to learn how to be a teller in a financial institution.

## Officials Honor Retiring Police Commander

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Commander Helvey has overseen the Investigative Services Division as well as Internal Affairs. He was appointed to the Taylor Police Department in February 1987 and rose to the rank of commander in 2002, making him second in command to the chief of police.

He has served the department in various assignments, working his way through all aspects of the Investigative Services Division

Helvey worked patrol until his assignment to the Crime Prevention Unit in 1992, and was assigned to the Detective Bureau a year later. He worked as a detective for five years, handling a variety of case assignments, until his promotion to sergeant in 1998. With that promotion, Helvey was reassigned to the Patrol Division as a supervisor until being asked to take over the Youth Bureau in 1999.

Helvey continued to climb the ranks, and, in June of 2000, he was promoted to lieutenant and placed in charge of the Detective Bureau. He was assigned administrative duties while still overseeing the Investigative Services Division, as well as handling both Internal Affairs and Liquor Control.

In June of 2002, Helvey was promoted

to his current rank of commander, remaining in charge of Investigative Services, Internal Affairs, and Liquor Control.

Commander Helvey's educational accomplishments include a bachelor's degree in management and organizational development from Spring Arbor University.

Helvey is also a 2008 graduate of the FBI National Academy's 234th Session, as well as a graduate of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command, the Macomb Community College Center for Police Management and Leadership Studies, and the Mid-Michigan Community College Law Enforcement Executive Leadership Institute.

On being recognized by City officials, Helvey said, "Receiving this honor will always stay with me. To have my co-workers there made it even more special. And for my family to see me honored after greatly supporting me throughout my career was just like honoring them as well – and that is something that I will never forget. Words can't describe how much I appreciate this, and I am grateful for receiving this acknowledgment. I want to thank God for allowing me to serve the City of Taylor as a member of the Taylor Police Department."

Commander Helvey resides in Taylor with his wife and five sons.  $\square$ 

## Taylor Police Using New Electronic Service To Send Alerts To Residents

The Taylor Police Department is utilizing a new communications service that allows officers to use the latest technology to send important, valuable community information directly to residents.

The Nixle Community Information Service allows Taylor police to create and publish messages to be delivered to subscribed residents instantly via cell phone text message and/or e-mail. Notifications can also be accessed online at Nixle's Web site: www.nixle.com.

The messages may include alerts on wanted persons, missing children, serious events in a neighborhood, major road closures, and other relevant safety and community information.

"There are some things that we want the community to know faster," said Detective Lieutenant Mary Sclabassi. "As a police department, we need to make sure we keep up with technology and use it as effectively as we can. This is just one of many things we've done in the past year to keep up with electronic advances."

According to Craig Mitnick, Nixle founder and CEO, more than 1,000 agencies across the country – including Los Angeles, Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis, and Virginia Beach – have tested and enacted Nixle for their departments. The service is reliable and free.

"Nixle is not like Twitter, which is a separate social networking application," he explained. "Twitter does not take geography into consideration, and it's a mass system where you follow an organization or a person. The Nixle system is secure group text messaging."

Mitnick said the messages can be sent specifically to residents registered within a quarter-mile radius, giving them the opportunity to receive trustworthy information relevant only to their neighborhood. Residents decide from which local agencies they want to receive information. Subscribers also can choose the way in which alerts are received, whether it is by e-mail, text message, or over the Web.

There is no spam and no hidden cost. Standard text messaging rates do apply.

Mitnick noted that Nixle builds on the foundations of other public-to-public communication services, such as Twitter, Facebook, and MySpace, but adds a key component: security. When citizens receive information from the Police Department via Nixle, they know it can be trusted.

"Nixle is a first-of-its-kind tool for communities that need to provide critical information to their residents," he said. "In today's world, you have to trust the source of your information. Residents of Taylor can rest easy that the local messages they receive are authentic."

Taylor residents and those in neighboring communities can immediately begin receiving pertinent information via text message, e-mail, and Web by registering at www.nixle.com.

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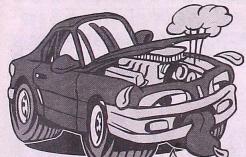


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## \$10,000 Available to Nonprofits

On August 19, Metro West Chapter of Credit Unions in Michigan will present at least one check totaling \$10,000 to one or more local, nonprofit organizations needing funds to benefit the local community. The process of seeking candidates to utilize those funds is currently under way.

All 501(C)(3)s interested in applying for funding are required to submit a grant request explaining how the funds will be used. This request should be no longer then one page typed. It should include the name of the organization, contact information (including contact name), complete mailing address, electronic mailing address, and Web site address (if applicable), as well as the 501(c)(3) number of the nonprofit group, the mission of the organization, how much money is being requested (up to \$10,000), an explanation of how the funds will be used in 2010, and the approximate number of people who will directly benefit from the contribution. The money must be used to directly benefit the communities of the Metro West Chapter of Credit Unions - Belleville, Brighton, Canton, Dearborn, Detroit, Eastpointe, Flatrock, Highland Park, Hillman, Lathrup Village, Livonia, Melvindale, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Romulus, Taylor, and/or Westland - and must be used within six months of receiving the check.

"Here is an excellent opportunity for

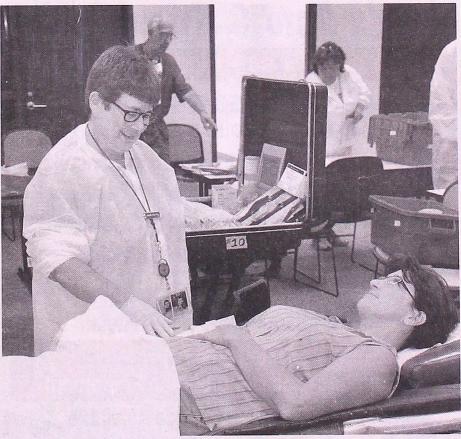
nonprofit organizations to get funding," said Eric Esser, the chapter's chairperson. "If you know of such an organization, please direct them to us, as we are anxious to review all requests."

Dean Trudeau, President and CEO of Public Service Credit Union, added, "Credit unions are not-for-profit organizations, as well – and, as a group of credit unions, one of our main focuses is to help the community. We have up to \$10,000 to grant to organizations, and we would like to assist as many as we can. That being said, this money can be split between many deserving institutions, or be directed into funding one big project."

The official 2010 Contribution Request, including important deadline and requirement information, is available online at <a href="http://metrowest.mcul.org/">http://metrowest.mcul.org/</a>. The Executive Committee of the Metro West Chapter of Credit Unions will meet on July 20, 2010 to review submissions. The winner or winners of grant money will be notified by July 30, and must be present at a check presentation ceremony on August 19, 2010. The ceremony will take place during the chapter's annual golf outing fund-raiser at Northville Hills Golf Club (15565 Bay Hill Drive, Northville).

For more information on the Metro West chapter of credit unions, please visit <a href="http://metrowest.mcul.org/">http://metrowest.mcul.org/</a>.  $\square$ 

## Taylor PD Continues Blood Drive Mission



Kathi Copple – with the help of Marilynn Dowdy-Sulkanen, RN – was one of many Taylor residents who took part in the Taylor Police Department's most recent American Red Cross blood drive, held on June 24 at the former main fire station. The drive was part of the Red Cross's annual "Blood Battle of the Cities" event, featuring competition between 13 Wayne County locations. The TPD has received platinum sponsor recognition from the Red Cross for its extensive efforts in organizing blood drives over the past several years. *Photo by Dave Gorgon/City of Taylor* 





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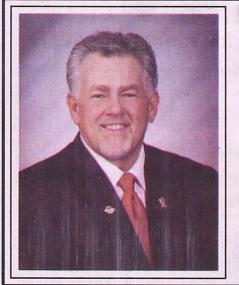
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## Graduates Honored at St. Alfred Baccalaureate Mass

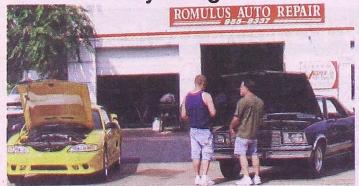


Eighteen high-school graduates attended the Baccalaureate Mass held on June 13 at St. Alfred Catholic Church in Taylor. Each graduate was presented with a certificate, a cross pin with the colors of the Holy Spirit, a chocolate graduation candy, and a white rose to be presented to their parents. The honorees were: (from left) front – Darlene Prim (Riverview Community High School), Amanda Richards (Gabriel Richard High School), Jennifer MacArthur (John F. Kennedy High School), Tiffany Swoish (Gabriel Richard High School), Katie Kilcoin (Mercy High School), Becky Rogers-Akers (Trillium Academy), and Rachel Rogers-Akers (Trillium Academy); middle – Max Francisco (Truman High School), Kyle Boettcher (St. Francis Academy), Anthony D'Aguanno (Gabriel Richard High School), Jonathan Slaviero (John F. Kennedy High School), and Johnathon Akers (Annapolis High School); back – Michael Kessler (Truman High School), Nick Neddo (Truman High School), Aaron Moore (Divine Child), Mark Woloszyk (John F. Kennedy), and Joshua LaPeer (Allen Park High School). Rebecca duBois (Gabriel Richard High School; not pictured) was the cantor at the mass.

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## County's Financial Woes Lead to One-week Hours Reduction at Taylor Library

Due to Wayne County's current financial difficulties, the Taylor Community Library will have reduced hours for the first full week of July.

The library will be closed for the Independence Day holiday weekend on Saturday, July 3; Sunday, July 4; and Monday, July 5.

Following are the hours for the rest of the first full week:

- Tuesday, July 6 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 7 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Thursday, July 8 noon to 8 p.m.

- Friday, July 9 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturday, July 10 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday, July 11 closed.

Normal hours (Monday—Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday—Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.) will resume on Monday, July 12. Fines will be adjusted for closed days.

The library staff apologizes for the inconvenience, and thanks patrons for their patience.

For information, call 734-287-4840 during business hours.

# Taylor's Foundation for Educational Excellence Awards 2010 Scholarships

The Taylor Public Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence awarded 12 scholarships to graduating seniors from Kennedy and Truman high schools during the farewell assemblies held June 9.

Scholarship presentations included the following:

The Taylor Big Boy Scholarship, sponsored by Rich and Mary Ann Swor, was awarded to Kennedy senior Adam Wysocki and Truman senior Samuel Vatamaniuc (\$500 each).

New this year is the "Biker Bob" Scholarship, sponsored by Jason Breckenridge of Taylor Harley Davidson. This year's winners were Tiffany Vrabel of Kennedy and Jackie McCaffery of Truman (\$500 each).

The Mayor Jeffrey P. Lamarand Scholarship was awarded to Stephanie DeShano at Kennedy and Ryan Pykor at Truman (\$250 each).

At Truman, the Sam Ellis Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000) was awarded for the second year. The scholarship was established in memory of the late Ellis, former school principal. The scholarship was donated to the Foundation by the Ellis family and pre-

# New Start Time for School Board Meetings

Beginning July 12, 2010, meetings of the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education will start at 6 p.m. rather than 6:30 p.m.

The meetings will continue to be held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month (except for holidays) at the district's administrative office (36540 Grant Road).

The new time is intended to accommodate residents who wish to attend both School Board and City Council meetings. Currently, the Romulus City Council meets at City Hall (11111 Wayne Road) at 7:30 p.m. on the first, second, and fourth Mondays of each month.

sented to Truman senior Deidre Dinco. Jennifer Ellis and her son Joe were on hand to present the scholarship.

The Bruce Bone Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000) was presented to Kennedy senior Christopher Frasson.

The Grodman Cure Foundation/ Shane Simmons Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000) was presented by Dr. Scott Grodman and awarded to Kennedy senior Allison Schmaus.

Also new to the Foundation this year is the Taylor Ministerial Scholarship, available to students interested in religious study. Two scholarships were presented by Pastor Phillip Nissley of New Hope Assembly of God. This year's recipients were Kennedy seniors Christina Fitcher and Cameron Holloway (\$750 and \$250, respectively).

The 2010 Educational Athletic Scholarship (\$1,000) was presented to Truman senior Sara Hunter.

Barbara Schultz, Secretary/Treasurer of the Foundation's Board of Directors, organizes the scholarship presentations.

"One of the highlights for me each school year is awarding the scholarships from the Taylor Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence to selected seniors at John F. Kennedy and Harry S. Truman high schools," Schultz said. "It is such a pleasure and delight to interview these student applicants. They are enthusiastic, poised, committed to their career goals, and very grateful for the opportunity to receive these scholarships. We have some outstanding students at our Taylor high schools, and I am proud to be part of the Foundation."

The Taylor Public Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence is a nonprofit, independent organization of community and business leaders committed to enriching the educational environment of the Taylor School District. The Foundation's mission is to generate, manage, and distribute financial and other resources to the Taylor Public Schools for the purpose of assisting and supplementing district programs and projects designed to enhance the quality of education.

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# Community Calendar

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to the little paper at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174–0038; FAX it to 734-992-2052; or e-mail it to <a href="mailto:thelittlepaper@comcast.net">thelittlepaper@comcast.net</a> no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, July 23.

#### Belleville

#### Vacation Bible School at Maranatha Baptist Church

Maranatha Baptist Church (6250 Gilmore Street) will host Vacation Bible School the week of Monday, July 12, through Friday, July 16, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. The free program, designed for children in grades kindergarten through six, will feature a "High Seas Expedition" theme that's both educational and fun.

To preregister for the program, visit www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/Maranatha Kids or call 734-484-1430.

#### Romulus

#### Summer Reading for Youths

The Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road) is still accepting registration for its Summer Reading Program. Besides encouraging youths to spend quality time with good books, it also features entertaining programs on Tuesdays at 1 p.m.

Upcoming programs, open to ages 3 to 13, include:

- interactive water stories presented by Jan Longtin (July 6);
- Science Alive, featuring animals and the science of water (July 13);
- songs and musical instruments by Gemini (July 20); and
- *magic* performed by Jason Hudy (July 27).

Other important dates:

- July 30 (last day to record your reading time), and
- August 3 (kids receive game kits and book bags as well as reading certificates).
   Call 734-942-7589 to learn more.

#### Summer Tennis

Tennis classes will be held at the Romulus Middle School tennis courts each Saturday from July 17 through August 21 according to the following schedule:

- Peewee 11:15 a.m. to noon (\$60; open to children in grades K–2),
- Beginner 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. (\$60; open to third-graders through adults),
- Organized Play 10 to 11 a.m. (\$50; open to those who know the basics of the game – these are not tennis lessons!).

Note that no restrooms will be available. Participants should bring their own water

Registration deadline is Friday, July 9. **Second Monday Book Club** 

Meetings of the Second Monday Book Club – open to everyone 18 and older – are held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road) from 7 to 8:15 p.m. Advance registration is not required for this free program; just read the suggested book of the month, then drop in for discussion and light refreshments.

Books planned for discussion include:

- Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen (July 12),
- The Uncommon Reader by Alan Bennett (August 9),
- Catherine the Great: Love, Sex and Power by Virginia Rounding,
- Dewey: The Small Town Library Cat Who Touched the World by Vicki Myron, and
- The Slaves' War: The Civil War in the Words of Former Slaves by Andrew Ward

For information, call 734-942-7589. **Hypnotherapy for Smoking Cessation** 

A one-day hypnotherapy session for people trying to quit smoking will be held at the Romulus Senior Center (36525 Bibbins Street) at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 17.

Cost is \$25 for residents and nonresidents. Preregister by Thursday, July 15.

For information, contact the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation at 734-941-8665.

#### Vacation Bible School at Calvary Church

Calvary Church (11338 Ozga Road) will host Vacation Bible School from 6:30 to 9 p.m. the week of Sunday, August 9, through Thursday, August 13. The free program, designed for preschoolers and elementary-age children through grade five (leaving), will feature a "High Seas Expedition" theme that's both educational and fun.

To preregister for the program, visit www.calvaryromulus.org or call the church at 734-941-0236.

#### Hypnotherapy for Weight Reduction

A one-day hypnotherapy session for weight reduction will be held at Romulus Senior Center (36525 Bibbins Street) at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 21.

Cost is \$25 for residents and nonresidents. Preregister by Thursday, August 19.

For information, contact the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation at 734-941-8665.

#### Taylor

#### Discount Golf All Month Long

In honor of our nation's birthday, Taylor Golf is offering discount rates at both Lakes of Taylor and Taylor Meadows golf

For the month of July, everyone is invited to golf 18 holes with a cart at Taylor Meadows (25360 Ecorse Road) for just \$30, or 18 holes with a cart at Lakes of Taylor (25505 Northline Road) for just \$40.

To book tee times or review food and drink specials, visit <a href="www.TaylorGolf.com">www.TaylorGolf.com</a> or call 734-287-2100. The limited-time offers are not valid with any other coupon or offer. Farmers Market Now Open

The Taylor Farmers Market welcomes shoppers from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. each Fri-

day in the parking lot of the Sheridan Community Center (12111 Pardee Road, between Northline and Goddard roads).

Vendors sell Michigan-grown produce, baked goods, honey, flowers, smoked meats, and other items. Other highlights include special events, musical performances, and occasional visits from artists.

To become a weekly market sponsor or a vendor, or to receive more information, contact market master Shirley Moore at smoore@waynemetro.org.

#### Coffees with the Mayor

Mayor Jeffrey P. Lamarand is inviting constituents to take part in his "Coffee with the Mayor" program – a series of monthly meetings, held in an informal setting, that give residents a chance to learn more about the Mayor's plans, ask him questions, and express their concerns.

Upcoming dates/sites include:

- July 13 Las Huastecas Mexican Restaurant (9411 Telegraph Road); and
- August 10 Flamingo Restaurant (22201 Ecorse Road).

Note that all coffees begin at 6 p.m.

For information, call Mayor Lamarand's Office: 734-374-1450.

#### "Gnome Day" Rescheduled for July 25

Due to a scheduling conflict, Gnome Day at the Taylor Conservatory and Botanical Gardens has been changed to Sunday, July 25.

People are invited to bring their gnomes for display at the conservatory. Children can make a gnome hat, hear a story, and participate in a gnome scavenger hunt. There will be a drawing for adults. Refreshments will be served.

"What is not to love about gnomes?" asks Patty Donahue, executive director of the Taylor Conservatory Foundation. "They protect the garden, love nature, and tell great stories!"

The event is free. For information, email info@taylorconservatory.org.

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Donors of \$500 or more will be recognized on a memorial plaque. Donors of \$25 or more will be recognized in a "book of friends."

# Sassy Seniors

For information about these or other programs, contact the appropriate center.

#### Romulus

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#### Health & Wellness Fair

You don't have to be a senior citizen or a resident of Romulus to attend a Health and Wellness Fair to be held at the Romulus Senior Center on Thursday, July 22, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The free event will feature health screenings, educational materials, displays, and demonstrations offered by representatives of a wide variety of business and service agencies. Those who participate will have an opportunity to learn more about little-known resources available to senior citizens, care-givers, the uninsured, and others in need.

For more information, stop in at the Center or call Rose Swidan, director.

#### Lunch Out

There's no transportation charge for the Romulus Senior Center's "lunch out" excursions. Next destination: Famous Dave's BBQ on Tuesday, July 20, at 11 a.m.

Advance registration is required.

#### Special Trips

Special trips planned for the coming months include:

- Michigan Princess Boat Cruise/Soaring Eagle (Tuesday, August 10; \$79 includes \$25 in casino incentives),
- Houghton Lake Boat Cruise (Monday, August 16; \$99),
- Evita at Stratford (Tuesday, August 24; \$109),
- Murder Mystery Dinner Train (Friday, October 15; \$89), and
- Turkeyville Dinner Theatre It's a Wonderful Life (Friday, December 10; \$59).

Call for details.

#### **Tigers Baseball**

The Senior Center will travel to Comerica Park to see the Tigers take on the Kansas City Royals in an evening game set for Wednesday, August 25.

Early sign-up is strongly encouraged. Call for cost and other information.

#### **Monthly Services**

The Romulus Senior Center distributes liquid nutrition, commodities, and Focus: HOPE goods.

#### ARE YOU HUNGRY?

Wayne County's Nutrition Program feeds thousands of senior citizens (age 60+) via the Meals on Wheels program for the homebound and the congregate meals program offered each weekday at sites like the Romulus Senior Center.

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1-800-851-1454

Not sure if you qualify? Call for more information.

#### Regular Programs

Contact the Senior Center for more information on these free or low-cost weekly programs, including:

- bingo (Mondays/Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- knitting/crochet classes (Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.),
- fun night (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- · game day (Thursdays, 1 p.m.), and
- quilting (Thursdays, 6 p.m.).

#### Taylor

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#### **Ice-cream Social**

The Ford Senior Activity Center will host an Ice-cream Social on Wednesday, July 14, from 1 to 4 p.m. Enjoy banana splits and sundaes while listening to the music of Mike Wolverton.

Tickets – \$7 each – must be purchased by Friday, July 9.

#### "An Afternoon at the Movies"

Enjoy a gourmet buffet and dessert, then see *Grown Ups* – with free popcorn and beverages! – on Tuesday, July 20. Bus departs from the Center at 10:15 a.m. and returns at about 4 p.m.

A cost of \$18.75 includes transportation, lunch, and admission. Preregistration required.

#### Restaurant Roundup

Enjoy lunch out at Toasted Oak Grille in Novi (Tuesday, July 13, at 11 a.m.) and at Famous Izzy's in Roseville (Tuesday, July 27, at 11 a.m.)

Participants will pay \$2 for transportation, plus the cost of the meal. Advance registration is required.

#### MGM Casino

If you love to gamble, but hate the hassles of traffic and parking, this trip to the MGM Casino is for you! The Ford Center's new bus will depart at 9:15 a.m. on Friday, July 30, and return at approximately 4 p.m.

Cost is just \$2! Sign up early.

#### "Game Socials"

Local seniors are invited to come to the Center each Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. for board games, cards, or just to socialize.

#### **Check Your Blood Pressure**

The Center has tentatively scheduled free blood-pressure checks from 8:30 to 11 a.m. on the following Thursdays: July 8, 15, 22, and 29. Just drop in!

#### Beat the Heat with Center's Hot Lunches

Just a reminder that the Senior Center serves a hot meal at 11:30 a.m. each weekday for a suggested donation of just \$2.25.

Call at least 24 hours in advance to make your reservation.

#### Get the Center's Newsletter

The Senior Center's newsletter is chockfull of information about special events, trips, and support services.

To receive a copy in your mailbox each month, for a cost of just \$5 per year, call the Center.

#### **BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM**

If you are a resident of Belleville, Brownstown, New Boston, Romulus, or Taylor, **the little paper** will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

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Birthdate		
Weight		
Birthplace		
Parents	一、企工的时间 对 共 独特	
Address		
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Siblings		
Maternal Grandparents		
Address		and solve acres
City	State	Zip
Paternal Grandparents		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Name and phone number of person	n to contact (in case of g	uestions):

#### **ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM**

If you, or your parents, are residents of Belleville, Brownstown, New Boston, Romulus, or Taylor, **the little paper** will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

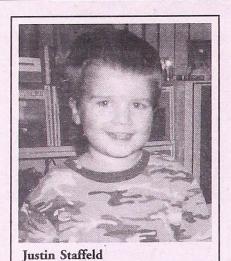
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	State
Bride's Parents	
City	
Groom's Parents	
Dity	State
Groomsmen	
Date of Engagement	
Date of Wedding	
Place	
City	State
Reception	
Pih.	State

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

# With Gratitude



Our family would like to thank the good citizens, neighbors, and friends of five-year-old Justin Staffeld for their kindness, support, and prayers.

> Sincerely, The Staffelds (Gary, Pat, Michael, Tonya, and Lucas)

# **Obituaries**

## Janet Rae Ark

Janet Rae Ark of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on June 20, 2010, at the age of 71.

She was born to Allen and Laverne Edgerton on December 23, 1938.

Janet and her husband Ronald were married for 52 wonderful years. She enjoyed traveling, ballroom dancing, playing catcher in baseball, and going to casinos.

Surviving Janet are her husband; a brother, Gerald (Susan) Edgerton; and a grandchild, Alicia D. Ark.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her son, Kenneth Ronald Ark, and her daughter, Karen Rae Ark.

A funeral service was held on June 24 at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus), with Father John Currin officiating.

Interment was at Our Lady of Hope Cemetery (Southgate, MI).

Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

## Marjorie J. Fyte

Marjorie J. Fyfe of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on June 16, 2010, at the age of 81.

She was born to Peter and Marjorie Ruby on April 3, 1929.

Marjorie was very involved with her family, and lived for her 2 grandchildren, Diedre and Daniel. She was also a member of the Lions Club.

Surviving Marjorie are 2 daughters, Mary Rose Fyfe (Livonia, MI) and Catherine Fyfe-Dinco (Taylor); a brother, Robert L. Ruby (Kentwood, MI); a

sister, Barbara J. Dewid (Warren, MI); and 2 grandchildren.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her parents; 2 brothers, Gerald J. Ruby and Donald P. Ruby; and 2 sisters, Patricia Siegel and Joanne

A funeral service was held on June 19 at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Pastor Marvin Hawbaker (Calvary Church, Romulus) officiating.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

### Barbara Ann Jesko

Barbara Ann Jesko of Westland, Michigan, passed away on June 18, 2010, at the age of 69.

She was born to James and Juanita Ollis of Danville, Illinois, on May 22,

Barbara was a homemaker after she retired from her job as a social worker for the State of Michigan. She especially loved spending time with her seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Surviving Barbara are 3 sons, Terry,

Harold, and Michael Stamper; a daughter, Sheila A. Hoeft; 4 brothers, James (Sue), Bill, Mark, and Marty Ollis; and a sister, Linda.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her husband, Robert, and her brother, John.

A funeral service was held on June 22 at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Reverend William Kren (Evangelical Church) officiating.

Interment was at Knollwood Memorial Park (Canton, MI). 🗖

# Obituary

### Marlene Martha (Kadau) Svacha



Marlene Martha (Kadau) Svacha

Marlene Martha (Kadau) Svacha of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on June 20, 2010, at the age of 57.

She was born in Trenton, Michigan, on July 12, 1952.

Marlene, who was very "krafty," enjoyed knitting, crocheting, collecting dolls, and assembling puzzles. She was an active member of Evangel Baptist Church (Taylor, MI), and loved spending time with her family.

Surviving Marlene are her husband, David (whom she married on December 5, 1970, at Zion Missionary Church, Belleville, MI); 2 sons, David (Lindsay) Svacha (Waterford, MI) and Daniel Svacha (Ann Arbor, MI); 3 daughters, Deborah (Jason) McCall (Denver, CO), Carol (Matthew) Koty (Romulus), and Martha (Greg) Dixon (Jacksonville, FL); her mother, Lois Mae (Korndorfer) Kadau; and a brother, Roger (Paula) Kadau (Romulus). She is also survived by 7 grandchildren: Brenton and Holden (David); Kaylee, Justin, and Jenna (Deborah); and Kristen and Natalie (Carol).

Among those who preceded her in passing was her father, Earl G. Kadau.

A funeral service was held on June 23 at Evangel Baptist Church, with Pastor Jerry Diserens officiating. Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with interment at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

As part of our commitment to community service, the little paper publishes personal/ obituary notices, free of charge, for residents in our coverage area. Call for information.







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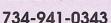
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for registrations received by July 22, 2010 For more info, call Keren LaBelle: 734-893-0694

or David Goodwin: 734-287-2400

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